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EDUCATION

School choice requires more funds

BY BRAD McELHINNY
WVMetroNews.com

CHARLESTON — A couple of programs related to “school choice” policies could call for millions of dollars more in state spending in the coming year.

The state treasurer has told legislators that an additional \$27 million will be necessary for the Hope Scholarship program, which provides financial support for students pursuing their

education outside the public school system. The additional money is necessary because more students are lining up for the program than estimates had indicated.

And Gov. Jim Justice has advocated for \$5 million in seed money to help charter schools with startup costs. Charter schools are considered public schools, but they are provided more flexibility in exchange for

the risk that they could lose their charter if they fail.

Sen. Patricia Rucker, chair of that chamber’s School Choice Committee, said the money is justified.

“It’s not that we are asking for more money for the Hope Scholarship. Education gets funded automatically by the state of West Virginia. The students that choose to pursue the Hope Scholarship, the amount of money is

the same education dollars, but it’s just following the students to where they’re getting that education,” said Rucker, R-Jefferson.

“So it looks like we’re appropriating money to that, but that’s because it’s part of the process and the way we wrote that language. It is part of the education funding.”

On the seed money for charter

SEE FUNDS, A-2

THIS WEEK IN W.VA. HISTORY



West Virginia & Regional History Center

Submitted photos

The first passenger train ran from Elkins to Charleston following completion of the Coal & Coke Railway (above). Mary Lou Retton (below) was born in Fairmont. She made history at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles when, at 16, she became the first American woman ever to win a gold medal in gymnastics.

Significant events in the Mountain State

WV Humanities council

CHARLESTON — The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at wvencyclopedia.org.

■ Jan. 21, 1906: The first passenger train ran from Elkins to Charleston following completion of the Coal & Coke Railway. The new railroad, a project of former senator Henry Gassaway Davis, provided a much-needed north-south route through the heart of West Virginia.

■ Jan. 22, 1927: Confederate Gen. John McCausland died. After the fall of the Confederacy, McCausland fled the country. He returned in 1867 and spent the remainder of his life on his large farm in Mason County.

■ Jan. 23, 1850: Raleigh County was established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly. The county’s founder, Alfred



Beckley, named it after Sir Walter Raleigh.

■ Jan. 23, 1888: Union leader Fred Mooney was born in a log cabin on Davis Creek in Kanawha County. He was secretary-treasurer of United Mine Workers of America District 17 from 1917 to 1924 and was a radical leader in the West Virginia Mine Wars.

■ Jan. 23, 1890: The United Mine Workers was organized at a meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Three months later, in Wheeling, UMWA District 17, encompassing most of West Virginia, held its first meeting, elected M.F. Moran as district president and launched what became a struggle of more than 40 years to unionize the state’s coal mines.

■ Jan. 24, 1968: Mary Lou Retton was born in Fairmont. She made history at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles when, at 16, she became the first American woman ever to win a gold medal in gymnastics and the first native West Virginia woman to win a gold medal in Olympic competition.

■ Jan. 25, 1814: Francis Harrison Pierpont was born near Morgantown. On June

SEE HISTORY, A-2

STATE

WVU Day at Legislature focuses on opportunity

WVU Today

West Virginia University works to channel the state’s heritage of rugged determination and helping one’s neighbors into its programs, creating innovative initiatives that deliver statewide results.

To celebrate these change-making efforts, WVU and WVU Extension will host WVU Day at the Legislature from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 30, in the upper rotunda of the West Virginia Capitol Building in Charleston.

Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to attend this free event, which will feature information and activities from organizations across WVU. This year’s event will highlight areas of opportunity for workforce development, economic prosperity, health care and youth programming.

Families, young people and other visitors will have access to hands-on activities and be able to explore interactive exhibits and discover the importance of civic engagement. Youth development, STEM, health care, volunteerism, safety, nutrition and more will also be featured.

Visitors can interact with a robot from the WVU Robotics program, learn how to operate fire extinguishers from WVU Extension Occupational Safety and Health and see a heartbeat demonstration from the WVU School of Nursing program.

WVU Jackson’s Mill will present activities in rope bracelet-making, food waste prevention and outdoor education. The Mountaineer mascot will greet guests and take photos.

“WVU and WVU Extension reach people in all 55 counties. We are here to exchange knowledge and provide tools and resources that improve lives and livelihoods,” Dean of WVU Extension and Engagement Jorge Atilas said. “Our research and community-engaged educational programs are diverse, vast and address topics that are important to our citizens, including health care, farming, nutrition, youth education, STEM and much more. This event is a great way to showcase and celebrate our outreach and service to the state.”

Contact the WVU Extension Office of Communications at 304-293-4221 with any questions.



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The Dominion Post

EVENT

Celebrate the wonders of winter at Oglebay Jan. 28

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Oglebay's WinterFest kicks off Jan. 28 at Schenk Lake.

One of the highlights of the event is the Polar Plunge, where brave participants jump into the freezing waters to raise funds for the Special Olympics of West Virginia.

Andy Brown, director of resort recreation, is excited for everyone to come together and have a

great time. Participants in the Polar Plunge are encouraged to raise a minimum of \$50. Visit oglebay.com/winterfest for more information.

That evening at 8 p.m., the Winterfest Party starts at Oglebay's Pine Room with Gage Joseph and Billie Jo Jones.

For those who want to make a weekend out of it, stay at Oglebay's Wilson Lodge. Guests staying at the lodge can enjoy break-

fast buffets and free admission to winter park activities such as skiing at Oglebay's Winter Sports Complex, Good Zoo admission and ice skating at Wheeling Park.

Exclusive programming, including trivia, family bingo movie nights and more, is also available. Overnight packages can be booked online at oglebay.com/winterfest or by phone at 877-436-1797.

HEALTH

Info about salmonella outbreak from meats sold at Sam's Club

Associated Press

The salmonella outbreak previously linked to charcuterie meats sold at Sam's Club also has been connected to meats from the same company sold at Costco. And, the CDC says, the outbreak's reached 22 states.

Here's some facts you might want to know.

What's the Costco-sold meat product now involved?

Costco posted Fratelli Beretta's announcement that "in an abundance of caution," Fratelli Beretta USA "issued a voluntary market withdrawal" of Fratelli Beretta Antipasto Gran Beretta.

The "voluntary market withdrawal" — a recall by any other name — involves item No. 1074880, twin 12-ounce trays of dry salami, dry coppa and prosciutto sold at Costco from Nov. 16 through Jan. 9 with a best-by date of June 13, 2024.

Previously, Fratelli Beretta recalled lot No. 075330300 of twin 9-ounce trays of Busseto Charcuterie Sampler with dry coppa, sweet soppressata and prosciutto that were

sold at Sam's Club. The best-by date on this lot is April 27, 2024.

If you have questions about either recall, phone Fratelli Beretta USA at 866-552-4916, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

How widespread is the salmonella outbreak?

The official infection count is 47 people in 22 states with no hospitalizations or deaths. Salmonella outbreaks often wind up undercounted because most people get sick and recover without hospitalization or needing to see a medical professional.

Of the 47 people, the CDC said 26 have been interviewed about what they've eaten recently and 19 said they'd eaten charcuterie meats. Ten people could identify what meats by memory or purchase tracking.

Four were Costco customers who bought the Fratelli Beretta brand Antipasto Gran Beretta and one bought a different Fratelli charcuterie product. Five bought charcuterie meats at Sam's Club. Three of them bought the Busseto sampler, but the other two couldn't remember the brand.

THE CDC SAYS THE OUTBREAK'S REACHED 22 STATES.

As for where the sick people are, Ohio leads with 11. Washington has five. New York has four. Texas, Nebraska and Pennsylvania have three each. Wisconsin and Arizona each have two. One person has been counted in each of these states: Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah, Vermont and Virginia.

What is salmonella? About 1.35 million people in the United States each year spend four to seven days with diarrhea, fever and stomachaches from salmonella. Check with a medical professional if fever exceeds 102 degrees and is accompanied by diarrhea; the diarrhea lasts more than three days or is bloody; you vomit up even liquids, rarely urinate, have a dry mouth and throat or get dizzy when rising. Those could be signs of dehydration.

HISTORY

FROM PAGE A-1

20, 1861, Pierpont was unanimously elected as governor of the unionist Reorganized State of Virginia, which sat at Wheeling until West Virginia entered the Union two years later.

■ Jan. 25, 1878: Activist Lenna Lowe Yost was born in Basnettville in Marion County. She held key leadership roles in the woman's suffrage and temperance movements.

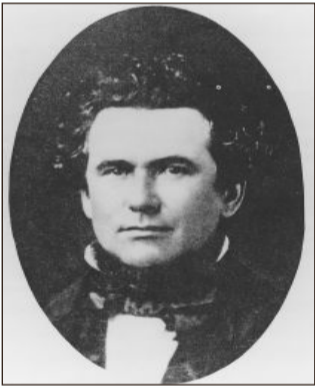
■ Jan. 25, 1889: Anna Johnson Gates was born in Kanawha County. The state's first female state legislator, Gates was elected to the House of Delegates in 1922 and served a single term.

■ Jan. 26, 1850: Wyoming County was formed by the Virginia General Assembly from part of Logan County.

■ Jan. 26, 1960: Burnsville High School basketball player Danny Heater scored 135 points in a varsity game against Widen, setting a national record. Heater went on to receive an academic scholarship to attend the University of Richmond.

■ Jan. 27, 1925: Bernard L. Coffindaffer was born in Nicholas County. In the 1980s and 1990s, Coffindaffer erected clusters of crosses along the highways of West Virginia and much of the Southeast.

■ Jan. 27., 1933: Folk artist George Connard



Submitted photos

Clockwise from top left: Confederate Gen. John McCausland fled the country after the fall of the Confederacy. He returned in 1867 and spent the remainder of his life on his farm in Mason County. Francis Harrison Pierpont was elected as governor of the unionist Reorganized State of Virginia, which sat at Wheeling until West Virginia entered the Union two years later. Burnsville High School basketball player Danny Heater scored 135 points in a varsity game against Widen, setting a national record. Activist Lenna Lowe Yost held key leadership roles in the woman's suffrage and temperance movements.

Wolfe was born in Standard, Kanawha County. A self-trained sculptor, he made his own tools from automobile leaf springs and engine valves and

worked in stone and wood. ■ Jan. 27-28, 1998: Flat Top on the Mercer-Raleigh county line received a record snowfall of 35 inches in a 24-hour period.

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ELECTION

DeSantis ends presidential bid

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis suspended his Republican presidential campaign on Sunday, ending his 2024 White House bid just before the New Hampshire primary while endorsing his bitter rival Donald Trump.

"It's clear to me that a majority of Republican

primary voters want to give Donald Trump another chance," DeSantis said in a video announcing his decision to drop out of the race which he posted on X.

DeSantis' allies said that private discussions began shortly after Iowa to decide how to bow out of the race gracefully. They ultimately decided that he

needed to endorse Trump, despite the deeply personal feud between them.

"While I've had disagreements with Donald Trump, such as on the coronavirus pandemic and his elevation of Anthony Fauci, Trump is superior to the current incumbent, Joe Biden. That is clear," said DeSantis.

WORLD BRIEFS

Associated Press

Netanyahu rejects sovereignty for Gaza

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Saturday that he "will not compromise on full Israeli control" over Gaza and that "this is contrary to a Palestinian state," rejecting U.S. President Joe Biden's suggestion that creative solutions could bridge wide gaps between the leaders' views on Palestinian statehood.

In a sign of the pressures Netanyahu's government faces at home, thousands of Israelis protested in Tel Aviv calling for new elections, and others demonstrated outside the prime minister's house, joining families of the more than 100 remaining hostages held by Hamas and other militants. They fear that Israel's military activity further endangers hostages' lives.

Netanyahu is also under heat to appease members of his right-wing ruling coalition by intensifying the war against Hamas, which governs Gaza, while contending with calls for restraint from the United States, its closest ally.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said "the refusal to accept the two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians, and the denial of the right to statehood for the Palestinian people, are unacceptable."

Netanyahu has said Israel must fight until it achieves "complete victory" and Hamas no longer poses a threat but has not outlined how this will be accomplished.

Palestinian death toll in Gaza passes 25,000

RAFAH, Gaza Strip — The Palestinian death toll from the war between Israel and Hamas has

soared past 25,000, the Health Ministry in the Gaza Strip said Sunday.

Since the war started, 25,105 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, while another 62,681 have been wounded, the Health Ministry said. The toll included the 178 bodies brought to Gaza's hospitals since Saturday, Health Ministry spokesperson Ashraf al-Qidra said.

The Health Ministry does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its figures but says about two-thirds of the people killed in Gaza were women and minors. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, but its casualty figures from previous wars were largely consistent with those of U.N. agencies and even the Israeli military.

The Israeli military says it has killed around 9,000 militants, without providing evidence, and blames the high civilian death toll on Hamas because it positions fighters, tunnels and other militant infrastructure in dense neighborhoods. The military released footage of a tunnel under a residential neighborhood in Khan Younis where the army believes at least 20 hostages were kept at different times.

27 people killed in an attack on Donetsk

KYIV, Ukraine — Moscow-installed officials said Ukrainian shelling killed at least 27 people and wounded 25 on Sunday at a market on the outskirts of Donetsk, a Russian-occupied city in the eastern part of the country.

Among the injured in the suburb of Tekstilshchik were two children, said Denis Pushilin, the local leader.

Ukrainian officials in Kyiv did not comment on the incident, and the

claims could not be independently verified by The Associated Press. Both sides have increasingly relied on longer-range attacks this winter amid largely unchanged positions on the 930-mile front line in the nearly 2-year-old war.

The artillery shells that hit the area had been fired from the area of Kurakhove and Krasnohorivka to the west, Pushilin said, adding that emergency services responded to the scene.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres "strongly condemns all attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including today's shelling of the city of Donetsk in Ukraine," according to a U.N. spokesperson, adding that all such attacks are prohibited under international humanitarian law.

Donetsk is one of four regions in Ukraine that Russia annexed illegally in 2022, months after Moscow launched its full-scale invasion.

Russia's Foreign Ministry also blamed Ukraine and described the strike as a "terrorist attack."

Also on Sunday, a fire broke out at a chemical transport terminal at Russia's Ust-Luga port following two explosions, regional officials said. Local media said the Baltic Sea port, about 100 miles southwest of St. Petersburg, had been attacked by Ukrainian drones, causing a gas tank to explode.

The blaze was at a site run by Russia's second-largest natural gas producer, Novatek.

In a statement to Russian media outlet RBC, the company blamed the fire on an "external influence," saying operations at the port were paused.

FUNDS

FROM PAGE A-1

schools, the Legislature passed a bill last year to establish a fund for newly authorized schools that face startup costs, such as acquiring or renovating property, but it has not been funded to this point.

"So when you open up a new school, it's going to take a little bit of money," Rucker said. "And currently there is no money for facilities at all for charter schools, so this would help the charter schools with startup costs and it would be reasonable to put some funding in there for that."

James Paul, the executive director of the West Virginia Professional Charter Schools Board, has pitched appropriating the startup fund. He spoke last week to the Senate School Choice Committee.

"One of the biggest financial challenges for starting a new charter school is that there's no state support specifically for startup funding for those summer months before you open," Paul told senators. "To start a new school is quite an entrepreneurial venture and to not have startup money before the fall is a real challenge."

He asked for legislative help with start-up funding and funds for facilities. "The Legislature could

put money into this fund, which currently has nothing so that my board can administer it appropriately to eligible applicants," Paul said.

The Hope Scholarship, which provides support either for students leaving public schools or kindergarteners who start on a track outside the public school system, may need millions of dollars more next year.

During a presentation last week before the Senate Finance Committee, Treasurer Riley Moore said an additional \$27 million would be necessary to fund the scholarship for the coming year, bringing the total funding to \$54.5 million.

That's because of increasing demand among students and their families. Moore said scholarships were awarded to 2,300 eligible students in the first year of the program. For the 2023-24 academic year, he said, the office has awarded more than 6,000 scholarships, "more than double the amount of last year."

"Part of this is, the program continues to grow," Moore said, "and as it grows, there's more requirements to fund the program."

Funding for the Hope Scholarship works as a bit of a dance. The state Department of Education annually produces an estimate for the number of

awarded applicants. The Legislature then allocates money from the General Fund. The Treasurer's Office then manages the funding for scholarship families.

"The appropriation's based on prior year enrollment, but then each year you have more enrollment," Moore told senators.

Sen. Ben Queen asked about an estimate of more than 10,000 students enrolled in the program next year. Moore agreed that estimate is realistic and said the highest level of year-over-year growth comes through kindergarteners whose families are choosing not to enter public school in the first place.

Queen, R-Harrison, followed up by asking about the program opening up to all students outside the public school system by 2026-27. In other words, students who have already been enrolled in private school or homeschool would be eligible no matter how long they had been outside the public school system. The Legislature will have to make budget plans for that next year.

"We are on track," responded Moore, who said the cost estimate for that scenario is \$134,519,707 annually if every eligible student drew down scholarship dollars.

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PRESTON COUNTY

Kids’ knowledge on display at science fair

BY JENIFFER GRAHAM
DPNews@DominionPost.com

KINGWOOD — The Preston County Science Fair for students in grades 5 and 7 and high school was held recently at the Kingwood Community Building.

Jennifer Spiker, a teacher at Preston High School, said each student chose his or her own project from a variety of categories. There were three divisions and 80 projects on display to be judged.

Debra Zigray, a 4th grade teacher at Kingwood Elementary

School and science fair coordinator, also oversees the Social Studies Fair and Math Field Day.

Winners in Division I

Animal Science:

- First place — Scarlett Hayes, Which Dog Treats Dogs Like Most? — Central Preston.
- Second place — Lylah Nestor, Yikes ... Dog Kisses?! — South Preston.
- Third place — Josephine Johannsen, Incubation Exploration — Bruceton.

Chemistry:

- Second place — Trenton McCormick and Jacob Delaney, POP! — Terra Alta/East Preston.
- Third Place — Willow Trujillo Knotts, Milk Art — Bruceton.

Earth & Environmental Science:

- First place — Jacob Heubi, Soil Erosion in Motion — Bruceton.
- Second place — Wyatt Layman, Will the Egg Sink or Float? — Terra Alta/East Preston.
- Third place — McKinzie Pyles, The Life of a Honey Bee —

South Preston.

Energy:

- First place — Emma Goodrich, Sparks From a Spud — Central Preston.
- Second place — Gabe Weaver, Melting Ice — South Preston.
- Third place — Chase James and Jerick Pifer, My Cup is Cooler Than Yours — South Preston.

Engineering:

- Second place — Adrienne Bernatowicz and Katelyn Kelly, Egg-excellent Domes — Central Preston.

Material Science:

- First place — Olivia Simmons, The Great Debate — Aurora.
- Second place — Elizabeth Yates, Does Bum Brand Matter? — Central Preston.

Math & Data:

- First place — Emma Moats & Harper Wilt, Let’s Pop It Out — Aurora.

Medical Science:

- Third place — Ava Myers, Don’t Forget to Brush Your Egg — South Preston.

Physics and Astronomy:

SEE SCIENCE, A-5

DIY: ONE-PAGE MINI BOOK



Photos courtesy of Aldona Bird

Making a mini book out of a single piece of paper is a fun craft project through which you can express a lot of creativity. Unlike making other books, this projects does not require binding.

Turn a single piece of paper into a creative journal

BY ALDONA BIRD
DPNews@DominionPost.com

Whether we are snowed in or don’t want to venture out in the rain and mud, focusing on simple indoor projects is a good way to spend free time in the winter.

Making a mini book out of a single piece of paper is a fun craft project through which you can express a lot of creativity. Unlike making other books, this projects does not require binding.

Since it is a simple project, you can set it down and have time to go enjoy moments of nice winter weather as they come.

To make a one-page book, you will need:

- paper
- scissors
- washi tape (optional)

Start your book by making a series of folds. First, fold it in half lengthwise, then unfold and fold in half in the other direction.

Unfold again, then fold the shorter sides in to the middle crease. This will crease eight

sections of your paper. Each will be a page in the finished book.

Next, make a slit along the center vertical crease between the middle two sections. Fold the page in half again widthwise, so the 8.5-inch sides are flat and touching. Carefully cut along the center crease, just from the folded edge to the next crease.

Unfold the page. Begin to fold the page in half lengthwise, and push it together so the other middle crease bends outward also, to form a plus shape.

Flatten, so the paper folds into a book.

If you want to make the edges tidy, you can cover them with washi tape, or other decorative tape. You can also glue the inside edges together, or embroider around the edges. Leaving them raw can also look nice.

You can use this mini notebook to sketch, write thoughts or notes, lists or doodles. Fill it with seasonal inspiration and make a new one each month or each season. If you make multiple one-page books, you can bind them together once you create a set.

Use watercolor paper for this project to create a mini on-the-go notebook for painting outdoors.

You can mail it to a friend, or keep it as a



tiny journal.

This is a quick and no-mess project, perfect for scratching a creative itch on a cold or dreary day.

COURTS

Trust set up for Sterling Faucet workers

Employees diagnosed with cancer may be entitled to benefits

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Plant workers employed before 1981 diagnosed with various cancers are entitled to special benefits.

Lung cancer, esophageal cancer, laryngeal cancer, pharyngeal cancer, stomach cancer, colon cancer, rectal cancer and mesothelioma are frequently caused by asbestos exposure.

Asbestos-laced products were used for decades at Sterling Faucet. Neither employees nor management were aware of the asbestos risk.

When inhaled or swallowed, microscopic asbestos fibers may be permanently affixed to body tissue. Over many years, these fibers may cause genetic changes that can lead to cancer.

According to the National Cancer Institute, “It can take from 10 to 40 years or more for asbestos-related cancers to appear.”

To compensate cancer victims and the families of deceased cancer victims, Federal Bankruptcy Courts have required asbestos manufacturers to set aside hundreds of millions of dollars in private trusts. Through these trusts, cancer victims can receive money damages by the filing of timely, detailed and accurate claims.

Norris Injury Lawyers has announced a specific initiative to assist Sterling Faucet employees in recovering money set aside for them in these asbestos trusts. Cancer victims or the families of deceased victims who worked at the plant before 1981 may call 800-478-9578 for a free evaluation of their claim. Additional information is available at getnorris.com/ash.

Families can connect with Hope Scholarship opportunities at Morgantown School Fair

DPNews@DominionPost.com

More than 6,000 West Virginia students already participate in West Virginia’s Hope Scholarship, while some families are still hearing about it for the first time.

The Morgantown School Fair on Jan. 27 will connect parents with schools and providers that accept Hope Scholarship funds — and offer fun and entertainment to boot.

All community members are invited to the free event, which will take place 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Erickson Alumni Center. The 20+ booths at the fair will showcase many of the educational service

providers, from private schools and homeschool groups to tutoring organizations, where families can use Hope funds.

While parents sip coffee and explore learning resources, children can enjoy a photo booth, face-painting, a DJ, balloon art, cookies and lemonade.

In addition to featuring Hope Scholarship providers, the fair will showcase the talents of West Virginia students with musical, dance and artistic performances. Student art will be displayed during the event; attendees can vote on their favorites and winners in each of four age categories will be

awarded Amazon gift cards.

West Virginia School Choice Awards will be given out during the event honoring an Educator of the Year and School Choice Advocate of the Year. Both honorees will receive commemorative trophies and Amazon gift cards.

The school fair is planned to coincide with the celebration of National School Choice Week (Jan. 21-27), which will feature tens of thousands of school choice celebrations across the country. Simultaneously with the Morgantown event, school fairs will be taking place in more than a dozen U.S. cities nationwide, including

Las Vegas, Atlanta and Colorado Springs.

“Love Your School is thrilled to collaborate with the Cardinal Institute to host the 2024 Morgantown School Fair: Now that we have the Hope Scholarship, parents are more empowered to customize education options to meet their kids’ needs,” said Buster Nicholson of Love Your School-West Virginia.

“Considering that recently the West Virginia Hope Scholarship Board approved a year-round application process and expanded eligible expenses, it is a great time to have a fair that celebrates

school choice. The Morgantown School Fair is a chance to find a new school for your kids, get them involved in a martial art, or learn more about how education choice can improve your kids’ lives.”

The fair is being hosted and organized by the Cardinal Institute for West Virginia Policy, a nonprofit dedicated to researching, developing and communicating effective public policies for West Virginia.

The Hope Scholarship is an education savings account program that allows families who are not enrolled full-time in public school to use a portion of their education funding for customized learning expenses.

Families can learn more and RSVP for the free event at morgantownschoolfair.com.

For more information, contact Amanda Kieffer at Amanda@cardinalinstitute.com or 304-541-9551.

SCIENCE

FROM PAGE A-4

- Third place — Owen See, Paper Airplanes — Terra Alta/East Preston.
- Plant Science:**
 - First place, Storm Gower and Mason Cox, Soil is the Soul of a Plant — South Preston.
 - Second place — John Bragg and Alex Snyder, What Brand Leaves the Least Kernels? — South Preston.
 - Third place — Charlotte Everd and Allison Fansler, Plant Growth — Bruceton.

Division II

- Animal Science:**
 - First place — Judah Cathell and Quentin Cathell, Plan Bee: The Hive Mind — South Preston.
 - Second place — Juliana Bright, Soda Color and Enamel Erosion — Bruceton.
- Chemistry:**
 - First place — Kylee Barr and Aubrey Welch, What's on the Surface? — Central Preston.
 - Second place — Colleen Hart and Lily Shrout, Which Will Cause a Bigger Explosion in Diet Coke? — West Preston.
- Earth & Environmental Science:**
 - First place — Madilyn Livengood, PH Power — Aurora.
 - Second place — McKenzie Cogar and Kayley Rodeheaver, Microplastics Cleaning — Terra Alta/East Preston.
- Energy:**
 - First place — Reese Stratton, So Attractive — Central Preston.
- Engineering:**
 - First place — John Grosso, Strength Testing 3-D Printed Beam — West Preston.
 - Third place — Ashton Harsh, Light the Bright — Aurora.
- Material Science:**
 - First place — Katelyn



Jeniffer Graham/The Dominion Post

Students' science projects on display at the Kingwood Community Building,

- Gribble, Milk Plastic — It's Fantastic! — South Preston.
- Second place — Aubrey Morris and Madison Dumire, Might or Meager — Aurora.
- Third place — RJ Wolfe and Isaiah Nelson, Light it up — South Preston.
- Math and Data:**
 - First place — Branson Roth, Popcorn — Aurora.
- Physics & Astronomy:**
 - Third place — Sophia Stephens and Shasta Bowman, How Does Distance and Atmosphere Affect Planet Temperature? — Terra Alta/East Preston.
- Technology & Systems:**
 - First place — Rylan Rhodes and Bella Bolyard, Robots — South Preston.

Division III

- All of these students come from PHS.
- Animal Science:**
 - First place — Donald Parks, Effect off Artificial Light on Egg Production.
 - Third place — Hanna Wolfe, Invasion of the Worm.
- Behavioral & Social**

- Sciences:**
 - First place — Keiara Johnston, Who Remembers?
 - Second place — Wyatt Braham, Curled Colors.
 - Third place — Sophia Satterfield, Music vs. Memory.
 - Honorable Mention — Mariah Titchenell, Can Essential Oils Reduce Your Stress Level?
- Biochemistry:**
 - First place — Caralie Fultz, Is Butter Better?
- Biomedical & Health Science:**
 - First place — Levi Yoder, How Age Effects Dexterity.
- Cellular & Molecular Biology:**
 - First Place — Faith Noss, Family Affair.
- Chemistry:**
 - First place — Garrett Haymond, Rusted Treasures.
 - Second place — Karma Janutolo, Acids vs. Bases.
 - Third place — Hunter Harrison, Iced: What Really Melts Ice?
- Earth & Environmental Sciences:**
 - First Place — Carley Casteel, Rain, Rain,

- Go Away.
- Engineering Technology: Statics & Dynamics:**
 - Second place — Luke Tayman, Bridges Be Built!
 - Third place — Jeremy Isaac Farling, The Power of Stream.
- Environmental Engineering:**
 - First place — Ethan White, StreampH Exploring Acidity.
- Material Science:**
 - Second place — Ryan Tayman, Apple vs. Salts
- Physics & Astronomy:**
 - First place — Hallie Simmons, Meltdown.
 - Second place — Kate-lyn Snider, The Absorption of an Echo.
 - Third Place — Kaden Hayes, Ice, Ice, Maybe.
- Plant Sciences:**
 - First place — Rick Deal, Soil Analysis Test Accuracy.
 - Second Place — Brooklyn Casteel, Speedy Seed Germination.
- Translational Medical Science:**
 - First place — Colson Manko, Dissolving Drugs.

NATION BRIEFS

Associated Press

Military ends rescue search for Navy SEALs

WASHINGTON — The military says a 10-day search to rescue two Navy SEALs lost in the Arabian Sea during a mission to board a ship and confiscate Iranian-made weapons has ended and the sailors are considered deceased. U.S. Central Command says the search is now a recovery effort. The names of the SEALs haven't been released, as family notifications continue. Ships and aircraft from the U.S., Japan, and Spain continuously searched more than 21,000 square miles. The SEAL raid targeted a ship carrying weapons to Houthi rebels in Yemen. As the SEALs were boarding the ship, one went under in heavy seas, and a teammate went in to try and save him.

Man arrested near Taylor Swift's NYC townhouse

NEW YORK — Taylor Swift's townhouse in New York City appears to have been the target of another break-in attempt, this time by a man who was arrested near the singer's Tribeca home. City police say they responded to a report of a disorderly person near the townhouse Saturday. Witnesses told the New York Post that the man tried but failed to enter the building. Police would not confirm a break-in attempt at Swift's home but said they arrested the man on the same street on an unrelated warrant. A representative for Swift did not immediately return a message. The home has been the site of several other break-ins and attempts over the years.

EPA: Little improvement in river, stream pollution

ST. LOUIS — The EPA's newest assessment of water quality and nutrient pollution in U.S. rivers and streams shows almost no progress on cutting the nitrogen pollution that comes primarily from farm chemical runoff. That's a problem because it can cause algae blooms, contaminate drinking water and feed the so-called "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico. And it may get worse as climate change increases rainfall that can wash more nutrients into waterways. Activists and scientists say little change has happened because curbing the pollution relies mostly on voluntary action by farmers. They say more regulation and incentives are needed.

Baldwin indictment offers prosecutors two paths

SANTA FE, N.M. — Alec Baldwin once again is facing a felony involuntary manslaughter charge after a grand jury indicted the actor in connection with the fatal 2021 shooting of a cinematographer on the set of a Western movie in New Mexico. The new charge was filed Friday and defense attorneys indicate they'll fight it. Baldwin was pointing a gun at cinematographer Halyna Hutchins during a rehearsal outside Santa Fe when the gun went off, killing her and wounding director Joel Souza. A new analysis of the gun opened the way for prosecutors to reboot the case. A separate trial of the film set weapons supervisor could provide a preview of strategies and witnesses against Baldwin.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Fla. to import prescription drugs. Good luck

The U.S. pays 50% more per capita for prescription drugs than Canada. Frustrated by this discrepancy, a handful of states in recent years have developed plans to import cheaper medications from across the border. Florida recently became the first state to get approval from the Food and Drug Administration to do so.

At first blush, the development sounds like a coup for consumers and a potential blueprint for other states saddled with rising drug costs. But, as ever in the U.S. health care market, the devil is in the details.

For more than two decades, U.S. pharmacists and wholesalers have been allowed to import medications from certain countries, including Canada, provided they're safe and deliver savings to consumers. For now, Florida will import certain drugs for its public programs, including Medicaid, prisons and government clinics. State officials expect savings of as much as \$180 million in the first year.

Such figures help explain why the prospect of importing drugs has long been popular. But it bears emphasizing that any such program will face significant practical challenges, starting with the drug industry. Although Florida, according to news reports, will buy medications through wholesale distributors, manufacturers unavoidably control supply. Some have explicit contracts that prevent Canadian wholesalers from reimporting drugs into the U.S. While states could try to negotiate directly with drugmakers, the industry has little incentive to come to the table. Manufacturers thus have a lot of leverage: They can restrict sales to Canadian wholesalers, creating artificial shortages and raising prices, or find new distributors, who will be loath to lose such lucrative business. That's all before the inevitable barrage of lawsuits.

Canada's government will also have a say. Officials have said supply is too small to meet U.S. demand and that bulk importation isn't an "effective solution." The country already has a rule blocking drug exports if such a program causes or worsens a shortage. Assuming states manage to appease Canada and overcome the wall of industry opposition, they'd then be left to seek FDA approval for each imported drug every two years.

Why Canada pays less for drugs than the U.S. isn't a mystery. Its government negotiates directly with drugmakers — an authority that Congress deliberately restricted when it created Medicare's prescription-drug program in 2003, for fear it would stifle innovation. The Inflation Reduction Act, which empowers Medicare to negotiate an initial list of 10 older, widely used drugs, marked a step in the right direction. But the IRA still faces numerous legal challenges.

In this context, Florida's drug import program probably won't amount to much. The hard truth is that only the leverage wielded by the federal government is likely to make a dent in drug prices. Although the IRA's list of negotiated drugs will eventually expand, Congress ultimately will have to consider adding newer, very expensive medications that comprise a growing share of state spending.

Politicians want to show they're working to lower drug prices. But when it comes to importing medicines, American voters should know they're being sold a dud.

THIS EDITORIAL first appeared in Bloomberg Opinion. This commentary should be considered another point of view and not necessarily the opinion or editorial policy of The Dominion Post.

Why isn't Russia accused of genocide?

IF ISRAEL IS BEING CHARGED WITH GENOCIDE AT THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, WHY ISN'T RUSSIA?

This is a question I find very troubling, as do some of my readers. Despite harsh critiques of the civilian carnage in Gaza caused by Israel's bombs — of which I have written my share — that war originated with a grisly Hamas terrorist attack on Israel. And Hamas explicitly calls in its charter for the military destruction of Israel and the death of its Jews.

Ukraine, on the other hand, never attacked Russia. Yet Vladimir Putin unleashed a brutal war against a peaceful neighbor that specifically targets civilians. Moreover, he has made no secret of his intentions, which are the critical element in finding a verdict of genocide.

Putin has said repeatedly that Ukraine has no right to exist separately from Russia.

"What I don't understand," one reader wrote, "is that Russia has invaded a sovereign country and for two years has brutally attacked, killed, and raped so many Ukrainian innocent people and destroyed their infrastructure and homes; and yet Putin and his government have not been charged with genocide — how is that possible?"

How indeed? Before I attempt to answer, let's look at the compelling case against Russia.

According to the 1948 Genocide Convention, a charge of genocide requires deliberate "intent to destroy in whole or part a national, ethnic, racial or religious group as such." The means can include killing group members, causing them serious bodily or mental harm, deliberately imposing conditions calculated to bring about the group's physical destruction, or forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Intent is the key word, and Putin has made crystal clear his intention to swallow Ukraine into the Russian empire as a subjugated entity, as he has done with Belarus. Over and over he has rejected the idea of Ukrainian statehood, insisting that Ukraine and Russia "are one people" and "that true sovereignty of Ukraine is possible only in partnership with Russia."

"The idea of the Ukrainian people as a nation separate from the Russians," he declared the night before the 2022 invasion, "has no historical basis."

Putin's front men have been

blunt about wiping out any remnants of Ukraine-ness from that country. Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, on whom Putin leans to dispense cannon fodder troops to the front lines, says that "Ukro-nazi trash" and "rodent pests" (i.e., Ukrainian leaders) should be "wiped from the face of the Earth."

Talking heads on Russian state-controlled TV, along with some parliament members, have proposed drowning Ukrainian children; they call Ukrainians "scum," the "brown plague," "nonhuman." They also talk of killing millions of Ukrainians and turning Ukrainian children into Russians.

That last scenario is not far-fetched. Officials have documented at least 19,000 Ukrainian children who have been taken away to Russia, and the number could be much higher.

"Forced deportation of children is one of the elements of genocide, and was a matter of intentional policy, taking them not only from orphanages but from families," I was told in July in Kyiv by Ukraine's prosecutor general, Andriy Kostin.

"THE WORLD IS AFRAID OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF CHARGING RUSSIA."

Peter Doran
Foundation for Defense of Democracies

Ukraine has successfully charged Putin with war crimes for kidnapping children before the International Criminal Court — a separate venue from the International Court of Justice that handles cases of genocide.

Meantime, Russia systematically bombs infrastructure — electric grids, heating units, schools, hospitals, markets, hotels, pizza parlors, even blowing up a dam — and leveling whole cities such as Mariupol. I have seen unbelievable horrors with my own eyes, shattered apartment buildings nowhere near any military installation, blasted churches, and shredded restaurants. All targeted to convince Ukrainians they have no alternative but to surrender to Russian rule.

If all this doesn't stink sufficiently of genocidal aims, I have interviewed escapees from Russian-occupied Ukraine who confirm that their Russian overlords harshly punish any reference to Ukraine's national history or any use of the Ukrainian language

(contrary to Putin's lies, one can still hear Russian spoken in bilingual cities like Kharkiv, even as they are hit by Russian bombs).

Knowing all that, why has Israel been charged with intent to commit genocide and Russia not? The answer is both practical and highly political.

With limited resources, Ukraine is focused on documenting more specific war crimes before evidence fades, and Kostin's office has so far amassed evidence of 109,000 cases.

But that doesn't tell us why no other country as brought a genocide case against Russia — as South Africa has done with Israel. One obvious answer is that power talks.

"The world is afraid of the consequences of charging Russia," argues Peter Doran, an expert on Russia and Ukraine at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. "A lot of statesmen fear the idea of putting Putin in the dock because they want to go back to the world as it was pre-February 2022, when the Russians invaded. They want to start negotiations with Putin and move on. But you can't go back."

I believe Doran is correct. Charging Israel and not Russia reflects the fact that the global south refuses to recognize that Moscow's war on Ukraine is genocidal colonialism at its ugliest and most deliberate.

It was not surprising to hear from Kostin that South Africa was reluctant to support Ukraine's war crimes charge against Putin for kidnapping children. That would have required Pretoria, as an International Criminal Court signatory, to arrest Putin if he stepped on its soil to attend a conference.

"The countries of the global south need to understand that if they put their short-term interests above the human rights values that they've fought for for decades, then this evil will return," Kostin told me. "Now is a very important moment for that part of the world that believes force matters more than justice."

In other words, the big fry like Russia and China will see that much of the world will give them a free pass for genocidal aggression.

To charge Israel and not Russia makes the genocide charge look like a political tool to bash the West rather than a search for justice in an ugly world.

TRUDY RUBIN is a columnist and editorial-board member for the The Philadelphia Inquirer. Email: trubin@phillynews.com.

Dry January allows us to reassess our relationship with alcohol

DRY JANUARY IS AN EXERCISE OF ABSTAINING FROM ALCOHOL FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE FIRST MONTH OF THE YEAR. For many, drinking alcohol during the holidays and the weeks leading up to the festive season is commonplace. Social drinking is widely considered a way to lighten the mood and bring people together.

Yet the holiday season is a complex time for many. Alcohol is often used to manage stress and other emotional discomfort during that time of the year. Even casual and social drinkers find themselves drinking more than usual.

Fortunately, the new year is an opportunity to give yourself time to recover and even reassess your drinking habits if you have concerns.

There are countless benefits to abstaining from alcohol. You

will end up sleeping better, having more energy and money, losing weight, feeling less depressed and anxious, and experiencing lowered blood pressure and cholesterol.

Additionally, you are contributing to removing the risk of drinking and driving. Abstinence from alcohol is the backbone of drunken driving prevention. Heavy social drinking and binge drinking tend to lead to more people driving while impaired. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "every day, about 37 people in the United States die in drunk-driving crashes — that's one person every 39 minutes."

In Chicago and Illinois, binge drinking is a notable public health issue. Binge drinking for men is defined as drinking at

least five alcoholic beverages on one occasion or within a few hours; for women, it's four or more. According to city data, binge drinking rates in Chicago are highest among men, non-Hispanic white people and adults ages 21 to 29. Adults in Illinois binge a median of 1.9 times monthly; 25% of most active drinkers binge 4.4 times per month, the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics reports.

Along with the health benefits, Dry January provides ample opportunity to reevaluate your drinking habits. Ask yourself whether you are using alcohol as a tool to cope with stressful situations. Do you find yourself stressed when you do not have alcohol, or has your drinking affected your professional or per-

sonal life?

While it may seem like an uphill battle to give up alcohol, there are practical tips you can use to make Dry January a success.

■ Create a supporting environment where you know you will succeed. Thoroughly purge all the booze around you; either dump it, hide it or give it away. Moreover, find a suitable nonalcoholic drink for social situations.

■ Recruit a friend or family member to participate with you and help you avoid temptations. Not only will you support one another, but you can also plan activities that do not involve alcohol, and you can speak about the successes and challenges of abstaining from alcohol.

■ Stay busy and active and take this time to focus on your mental and physical well-being;

take advantage of having more energy and sleeping better. Use Dry January apps that will help you track your progress and find practical ways to hold yourself accountable.

Ideally, this time of abstinence can be optimal to reflect on your drinking habits. During the month, you will begin to lose alcohol cravings, and you may realize alcohol does not need to take up such ample space in your life. If the benefits make you feel great physically and mentally, consider continuing for another 30 days. Embrace your new attitude to alcohol use.

NICKOLAUS HAYES is a health care professional in the field of substance use and addiction recovery and is part of the editorial team at Drug Rehab Services.

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WVU MEN'S BASKETBALL

Edwards nearing return from broken wrist

WVU could have full roster available for 1st time

BY JUSTIN JACKSON
JJackson@DominionPost.com

Before RaeQuan Battle made a single shot or Pat Suemnick grabbed a rebound and long before WVU men's basketball coach Josh Eilert claimed it was a great day to be a Mountaineer, there was already a buzz making its way through the Coliseum.

West Virginia's 91-85 upset against No. 3 Kansas on Saturday hadn't even tipped off yet when Jesse Edwards made his first appearance in a WVU uniform for the first time since Dec. 16.

He stretched, ran and took jump shots and lay-ups, all coming about four weeks after having surgery on his fractured right wrist.

Around Edwards, who was averaging 14.8 points and 8.7 rebounds per game before the injury, was his teammates.

All of them, which marked the first time all season that the entire WVU roster was, at the very least, all warming up at the same time.

"We threw him out in practice (Friday) and he was raring to go," Eilert said. "He wants to do everything he can to help the team. We went a little bit of five-on-five and it got a little tender on him when he started guarding, so we backed off real quick."

Eilert said the medical reports have all been positive since Edwards had the brace removed last week from the wrist, which led his return to practice and then to warm-ups prior to the game.

While it was for just a brief



William Wotring/The Dominion Post

West Virginia Mountaineers center Jesse Edwards (7) shoots while being guarded by Drexel Dragons forward Garfield Turner (13) on Dec. 9. Edwards has not played since Dec. 16 while recovering from a broken wrist. He warmed up prior to the team's game against Kansas on Saturday as he nears a return to action.

moment, the team's potential swirled around the arena.

Standing next to Edwards was Pat Suemnick, the former back-up turned potential breakout star after his career-high 20 points against the Jayhawks.

Off to the side were Battle, Noah Farrakhan and Kerr Kri-

isa, who have been playing together since Edwards' injury, but have yet to play an entire game with Edwards in the lineup.

WVU forward Quinn Slazinski played in the early part of the season with Edwards, but that

SEE RETURN, B-2

WVU at UCF

WHEN: 7 p.m. Tuesday
WHERE: Addition Financial Arena, Orlando
TV: ESPN+ (Online subscription needed)
RADIO: 100.9 JACK-FM
WEB: dominionpost.com

NFL PLAYOFFS

Travis Kelce scores twice, Chiefs beat Bills 27-24

Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Travis Kelce caught two touchdown passes from Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs advanced to their sixth straight AFC championship game with a 27-24 win over the Buffalo Bills on Sunday night.

Isiah Pacheco scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 4-yard run 40 seconds into the fourth quarter in a game the teams traded leads five times. The Chiefs then clinched the win by running out the clock after Buffalo's Tyler Bass was wide right on a 44-yard field goal attempt with 1:43 remaining.

The defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs (13-6) move on to Baltimore to face Lamar Jackson and the conference's top-seeded Ravens, who beat Houston 34-10 on Saturday.

"There's no weakness there," Mahomes said of the Ravens. "It's going to take our best effort. Defense, offense, special teams, they do it all. It's always a great challenge and that stadium's going to be rocking, so we're excited for the challenge."

Kansas City is 0-1 in the playoffs against the Ravens, following a 30-7 loss in the 2010 wild-card round. Baltimore defeated Kansas City 36-35 in their most recent regular-season matchup in Week 2 of the 2021 season.

Kansas City has never lost in the divisional round since Mahomes took over as starter in 2018, and the Chiefs have now won five consecutive playoff games since a 27-24 overtime loss to Cincinnati in the AFC champi-

SEE CHIEFS, B-2

NFL PLAYOFFS

Jared Goff Throws 2 TD passes, Lions advance to NFC Title game with 31-23 win over Buccaneers

Associated Press

DETROIT — Jared Goff is good enough for Detroit, as his coach recently reminded him.

Cast away by the Los Angeles Rams three years ago in a trade for Matthew Stafford, the quarterback was welcomed by the Lions and has since become a fan favorite at Ford Field, where the crowd chanted his name during a second straight home playoff triumph for the long-downtrodden franchise.

Goff threw his second touchdown pass with 6:22 left and the Lions beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 31-23 in the divisional round on Sunday, lifting Detroit into the NFC championship for the first time in 32 years and just the second time in franchise history.

He took a knee on three straight snaps to run out the clock, giving him a chance to enjoy the sights and sounds as fans stood, screamed and twirled white towels.

"I knew it would be the last one in front of our home fans this year, and I took it all in," Goff said.

The Lions (14-5) won two playoff games in a season for the first



AP Photo

Detroit Lions wide receiver Josh Reynolds (8) celebrates with teammate Jameson Williams (9) after scoring a touchdown against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers during the first half of an NFC divisional playoff game, Sunday.

time since 1957, the last year they won the NFL title, and had two postseason games at home for the first time.

Now they have to travel to face San Francisco, the NFC's top seed, next Sunday for a spot in the

Super Bowl — a game they have never played in.

"I envisioned that we would have a chance to compete with the big boys, and that's where we're at," said coach Dan Campbell, who was hired shortly before Goff

was acquired.

Jahmyr Gibbs ran through a huge hole for a tiebreaking, 31-yard touchdown early in the fourth quarter, and Goff made it a two-TD lead when he connected with Amon-Ra St. Brown for a 9-yard score.

Goff finished 30 of 43 for 287 yards and directed an efficient second-half offense for the Lions, who had long touchdown drives on three consecutive possessions. St. Brown had eight catches for 77 yards, and his TD catch capped a masterful 10-play, 89-yard drive.

"Goff in that fourth quarter, he really showed up and made some big throws," said Campbell, who told Goff he was good enough for Detroit last week when he gave him a game ball after beating his former team in a wild-card game.

Gibbs, an electric rookie Tampa Bay didn't have to face when it lost to Detroit in the regular season, had 74 yards rushing on nine carries and four receptions for 40 yards.

The Lions, and their desperate-for-a-winner fans, hope their second appearance in the NFC title game works out better than the first when Washington routed

them 41-10 on Jan. 12, 1992.

Baker Mayfield threw three TD passes for Tampa Bay (10-9), including a 16-yard toss to Mike Evans that got the Bucs within one score with 4:37 left.

Detroit couldn't run out the clock on offense, giving Tampa Bay one last chance, but Mayfield's pass over the middle was intercepted by linebacker Derrick Barnes, the quarterback's second pick of the day.

Mayfield was 26 of 41 for 349 yards. His early pick went off Mike Evans' hands, and his late one was an ill-advised throw.

"It comes down to minimizing mistakes and I didn't do that," Mayfield said.

Evans had eight receptions for 147 yards and a touchdown.

Rachaad White had 55 yards rushing on nine carries, a total coach Todd Bowles may lament wasn't higher, and four catches for 36 yards.

"Anything short of the Super Bowl is a disappointment," Bowles said.

Detroit and Tampa Bay traded field goals and touchdowns to enter the fourth quarter in a 17-all tie.

SEE LIONS, B-2

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Tucker County at Trinity Christian, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Clay-Battelle at Valley

ON TV

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
7 p.m. CBSSN — Lehigh at Colgate
ESPN — Wake Forest at North Carolina
ESPNU — McNeese St. at Texas A&M-CC
9 p.m. CBSSN — Hofstra at Stony Brook
ESPN — Cincinnati at Kansas
ESPNU — Texas Southern at Jackson St.
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
4 p.m. CBSSN — Lehigh at Colgate
6:30 p.m. FS1 — St. John's at Seton Hall
7 p.m. ESPN2 — UCLA at Utah
SECN — Mississippi St. at Florida
8:30 p.m. FS1 — Kansas St. at Baylor
COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S)
8 p.m. BTN — Iowa at Minnesota
NBA BASKETBALL
7 p.m. NBATV — San Antonio at Philadelphia
10 p.m. NBATV — Atlanta at Sacramento
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m. NHLN — Vegas at New Jersey
SOCCER (MEN'S)
2:45 p.m. USA — Premier League: Wolverhampton at Brighton & Hove Albion
TENNIS
3 a.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WT: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia
12 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WT: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)
9 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WT: The Australian Open, Quarterfinals, Melbourne, Australia
3 a.m. (Tuesday) ESPN2 — ATP/WT: The Australian Open, Quarterfinals, Melbourne, Australia

NFL PLAYOFFS

NFL Playoff Glance

All Times EST
Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 13
Houston 45, Cleveland 14
Kansas City 26, Miami 7
Sunday, Jan. 14
Green Bay 48, Dallas 32
Detroit 24, L.A. Rams 23
Pittsburgh at Buffalo, ppd. to Jan. 15
Monday, Jan. 15
Buffalo 31, Pittsburgh 17
Tampa Bay 32, Philadelphia 9
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 20

Baltimore 34, Houston 10
San Francisco 24, Green Bay 21
Sunday, Jan. 21
Detroit 31, Tampa Bay 23
Kansas City 27, Buffalo 24
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 28
AFC
Kansas City at Baltimore, 3 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
Detroit at San Francisco, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 11
At Las Vegas
TBD, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Boston	45	28	8	9	65	158	120		
Florida	45	27	14	4	58	142	120		
Detroit	46	24	17	5	53	162	151		
Tampa Bay	47	24	18	5	53	157	155		
Toronto	44	22	14	8	52	158	147		
Montreal	46	19	20	7	45	129	165		
Buffalo	46	20	22	4	44	134	146		
Ottawa	42	17	24	1	35	143	154		
METROPOLITAN DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
N.Y.	45	28	15	2	58	145	130		
Rangers	47	25	16	6	56	142	133		
Philadelphia	45	25	15	5	55	154	139		
Washington	44	22	16	6	50	106	130		
New Jersey	44	23	18	3	49	150	154		
N.Y.	45	19	15	11	49	133	154		
Islanders									
Pittsburgh	43	21	16	6	48	131	116		
Columbus	45	14	22	9	37	135	169		
WESTERN CONFERENCE									
CENTRAL DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Winnipeg	44	30	10	4	64	145	100		
Colorado	47	30	14	3	63	179	150		
Dallas	45	27	13	5	59	167	137		
Nashville	46	25	20	1	51	143	142		
Arizona	44	22	19	3	47	132	130		
St. Louis	44	22	20	2	46	125	140		
Minnesota	46	20	21	5	45	140	157		
Chicago	46	14	30	2	30	103	165		

PACIFIC DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Vancouver	46	31	11	4	66	176	119		
Vegas	46	27	14	5	59	148	123		
Edmonton	42	26	15	1	53	149	122		
Los Angeles	43	22	13	8	52	138	112		
Seattle	45	19	17	9	47	126	134		
Calgary	46	21	20	5	47	143	146		
Anaheim	45	15	29	1	31	114	155		
San Jose	46	11	31	4	26	94	186		
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.									

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Ottawa 5, Philadelphia 3
Minnesota 5, Carolina 2
Detroit 2, Tampa Bay 1
Dallas at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Anaheim, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Seattle, 9 p.m.
MONDAY'S GAMES
Dallas at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Boston, 7 p.m.
Florida at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
TUESDAY'S GAMES
Dallas at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Vegas at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Columbus at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
St. Louis at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Buffalo at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Czech Republic, def. Rajeev Ram, United States, and Joe Salisbury (3), Britain, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Women's Doubles
Second Round
Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Erin Routliffe (4), New Zealand, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova and Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, walkover.
Women's Doubles
Third Round
Storm Hunter, Australia, and Katerina Siniakova (3), Czech Republic, def. Ekaterina Alexandrova and Anna Kalinskaya, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.
Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Elise Mertens (2), Belgium, def. Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini, Italy, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.
Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Erin Routliffe (4), New Zealand, def. Xinyu Jiang and HanYu Guo, China, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3.
Kristina Mladenovic and Caroline Garcia, France, def. Elixane Lechemia, France, and Tamara Korpatsch, Germany, 3-6, 7-5, 6-0.
Mixed Doubles
Second Round
Joran Vliegen, Belgium, and Ena Shibahara, Japan, def. Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States, and Marcelo Arevalo-Gonzalez, El Salvador, 6-3, 7-4 (0).
Matthew Ebden and Storm Hunter (1), Australia, def. Lyudmyla Kichenok, Ukraine, and Mate Pavic, Croatia, 6-3, 6-2.
Mixed Doubles
Third Round
Kevin Krawietz, Germany, and Nicole Melichar-Martinez (7), United States, def. Andrea Vavassori, Italy, and Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, 7-6 (8), 6-2.
Neel Skupski, Britain, and Desirae Krawczyk (2), United States, def. Lloyd Glasspool, Britain, and Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, 5-7, 7-5, 10-7.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Australian Open Results

Sunday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Purse: AUD\$923,200
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA (AP) _ Results
Sunday from Australian Open at Melbourne Park (seedings in parentheses):
Men's Singles
Fourth Round
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Adrian Panarin (20), France, 6-0, 6-0, 6-3.
Taylor Fritz (12), United States, def. Stefanos Tsitsipas (7), Greece, 7-6 (3), 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.
Jannik Sinner (4), Italy, def. Karen Khachanov (13), Russia, 6-4, 7-5, 6-3.
Andrey Rublev (5), Russia, def. Alex de Minaur (10), Australia, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-0.
Women's Singles
Fourth Round
Coco Gauff (4), United States, def. Magdalena Frech, Poland, 6-1, 6-2.
Aryna Sabalenka (2), Belarus, def. Amanda Anisimova, United States, 6-3, 6-2.
Maria Kostyuk, Ukraine, def. Maria Timofeeva, Russia, 6-2, 6-1.
Barbora Krejickova (9), Czech Republic, def. Mirra Andreava, Russia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Men's Doubles
Third Round
Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni (6), Argentina, def. Jack Withrow and Nathaniel Lammons (12), United States, 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-6 (5).
Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz (8), Germany, def. Mate Pavic, Croatia, and Marcelo Arevalo-Gonzalez (10), El Salvador, 6-3, 6-3.
Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori, Italy, def. Denys Molchanov, Ukraine, and Nikola Patic, Serbia, 6-2, 6-2.
Zhang Zhizhen, China, and Tomas Machac,

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Stanford's Tara VanDerveer becomes winningest coach in college basketball

Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — It never fails, Tara VanDerveer always takes a minute to thank everybody for coming to the game and that includes offering her immense gratitude to the Stanford band.

On Sunday, moments after her latest remarkable milestone in a career filled with them and as the new winningest coach in basketball history, she politely asked the band to stop playing. VanDerveer took the microphone and began with her words of appreciation once more.

Just as those who love her so hoped it turn out, VanDerveer passed former Duke and Army coach Mike Krzyzewski with her 1,203rd career victory at home in Maples Pavilion when No. 8 Stanford beat Oregon State 65-56.

“It’s really special to win a game and have you all here to celebrate,” VanDerveer said. “It’s also really special to have so many former players come back. ... It’s just so exciting to see everybody. Thank you all very much for coming out, I really appreciate it.”

A head coach since age 24, VanDerveer celebrated with thousands on her team’s home floor with a couple dozen former players on hand to cheer the Hall of Fame coach on for yet another triumph in a 45-year career filled with memorable accomplishments.

And for a nearly full arena, this was also a chance for fans to show their love for a Hall of Fame coach who has been shining her light on women’s basketball for 4 1/2 decades.

“Tara! Tara!” they yelled in the closing seconds before the celebration



AP Photo

Stanford head coach Tara VanDerveer, right, is congratulated by forward Kiki Iriafen after the team’s victory over Oregon State Sunday. VanDerveer broke the college basketball record for wins with the victory.

began.

“This is a tremendous accomplishment for Tara VanDerveer, who is already one of the most accomplished coaches in the history of basketball,” Krzyzewski said in a statement. “This is yet another milestone to add to an amazing legacy. More important than all the astounding numbers and career accomplishments, she’s positively impacted countless lives as a coach and a mentor. Tara remains a true guardian of our sport.”

It was tense at times, with VanDerveer standing with arms crossed and pacing the sideline as Kiki Iriafen and her supporting cast made the big plays when it mattered most — including Iriafen’s first 3-pointers. Stanford was missing All-American Cameron Brink because of a lower left leg injury suffered in Friday’s win over Oregon.

“I just love how our team battled,” VanDerveer told the crowd. “How ‘bout Kiki!”

Iriafen contributed a

career-high 36 points on 16-for-26 shooting and 11 rebounds and Talana Lepolo 14 points and six assists for the Cardinal (17-2, 6-1 Pac-12). The game drew a near-capacity crowd of 7,022 at Maples Pavilion, which holds 7,233.

VanDerveer improved to 1,203-267 overall and 1,051-216 over 38 seasons at Stanford. A 17-time Pac-12 Coach of the Year with five national Coach of the Year honors, VanDerveer has captured three NCAA titles with Stanford — 1990, ‘92 and 2021 — and coached the 1996 U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal at the Atlanta Games during a year away from Stanford.

Stanford led 28-22 at the break having shot just 12 of 34 but was willed in the second half as former star players such as Jennifer Azzi, Chiney Ogwumike, Ros Gold-Onwude and Jayne Appel-Marinelli were among those in attendance along with former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice supporting the beloved coach.

“What does it mean to me? It means everything.

where.”

The Bills (12-7) had their third consecutive postseason end in the divisional round, following losses to Cincinnati last year and the Chiefs in 2021. And the Chiefs ended Buffalo’s season for the third time in four years, including a 38-24 decision at Kansas City in the 2020 season AFC championship game.

It was another disappointing finish for a Bills team that won its fourth consecutive AFC East title, and was on a six-game roll since a 20-17 win at Kansas City on Dec. 10.



AP Photo

Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) scores a touchdown against the Buffalo Bills during the second quarter of an NFL AFC division playoff game Sunday.

CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B-1

onship game during the 2021 season.

Mahomes, a two-time NFL MVP, can also check off another first on his record by winning his first road start in the playoffs — not counting Super Bowls — and improving his postseason mark to 13-3.

“First of all, this is a great environment, man,” Mahomes said of Buffalo. “It really is. We did hear it all week, man, about playing a road game, and we’re here to prove a point and show that we can play any-

LIONS

FROM PAGE B-1

The Lions went ahead for a third time with 3:48 left in the third quarter, when Campbell went for it on fourth-and-goal from the 1 and Craig Reynolds ran up the middle for a score that ended a 10-play, 64-yard drive.

Mayfield and the Bucs bounced back again with the crafty veteran, who resurrected his career this season, avoiding sacks before connecting with White on a 12-yard pass to make it 17-all late in the third.

Gibbs started left and cut back to the right on his

tiebreaking touchdown run.

The NFC North champion Lions were fortunate to score first.

C.J. Gardner-Johnson picked off Mayfield’s pass that went through Evans’ hands to end Tampa Bay’s first drive. Goff almost gave it back, underthrowing a pass into the end zone that defensive back Jamel Dean dropped, and two snaps later, Michael Badgley made a 23-yard field goal.

Mayfield answered, converting a third down with an 18-yard pass to Evans and throwing a 23-yard pass to Trey Palmer on consecutive plays to set up Chase

McLaughlin’s 43-yard kick.

Goff converted a third down with a 9-yard touchdown pass to Josh Reynolds early in the second quarter.

Mayfield used his feet and arm to pull the Bucs into a tie just before halftime. He ran for 14 yards — the longest run by a Tampa Bay quarterback in a playoff game — on a third down and then connected with Evans for 27- and 29-yard passes to set up a 2-yard TD pass to Cade Cotton.

In the end, the NFC South champions came up short, ending a season in which they surpassed modest expectations.

That wasn’t of much consolation.

“It feel like my heart just got ripped out,” Mayfield said.

INJURIES

Bucs: S Kaevon Merriweather (ankle) was injured in the third quarter and was carted off the field. Dean limped off the field in the fourth.

Lions: G Jonah Jackson (knee) was injured in the first half and didn’t return. TE Brock Wright (forearm) was knocked out of the game in the second half.

Want to see your news in The Dominion Post? Let us know what’s going on with your business, club or team. Email news tips, photos or press releases to DPNNews@DominionPost.com Questions: 304-291-9425

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Lease Payment

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New 2024 Mercedes-Benz

GLE 350 4MATIC® SUV

Lease Payment

\$899*/MO.

for 36 months / \$6,413 due at signing

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2023 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250 4MATIC®

stock# 63030X | 2,824 Miles

\$39,900



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2023 Mercedes-Benz C 300 4MATIC®

stock# 44020A | 9,752 Miles

\$42,950



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2022 Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 4MATIC®

stock# 64027A | 12,927 Miles

\$40,950



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Pre-Owned Vehicles

2018 Mercedes-Benz GLE 350 4MATIC®

stock# 64061B | 80,958 Miles

\$23,350



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New year’s resolutions more achievable when specific

DEAR DOCTORS: My husband teases me because I love making New Year’s resolutions, but I have trouble keeping them. Some on my list for 2024 — lose 10 pounds, start hitting the gym — have been with me since the 1990s! Any advice on how to do better?

Dear Reader: When it comes to upping the chances of success, there are several things you can do. One is to set very specific goals, as you did regarding weight loss. Next, map out a reasonable set of steps you will take to achieve it. That means breaking down a goal into manageable increments. Viewed over the course of a year, the 10 pounds you want to lose works out to less than one pound each month. By examining your eating habits, you can target a few small changes that can lead to that modest goal.

Rather than the very general goal of hitting the gym, why not begin with a specific — and achievable — plan of going once a week? Maybe start with a group exercise class that meets regularly, which can help the goal be more purposeful, and even fun.



DRS. ELIZABETH KO & EVE GLAZIER

The other half of goal planning is preparing yourself for the stumbles and slips that often happen along the way. Skipping a week of the gym or stalling out on weight loss do not equal failure. Let it be OK. Remind yourself of why you set the goals in the first place. Literally writing down the reasons in a list can be surprisingly helpful. A reboot after a fumble can be challenging. That is where the community of a group exercise class can come in handy. And if your husband is willing, rather than teasing you about the resolutions you love to make, perhaps the two of you can make one together. A nightly stroll around the block after dinner is an easy one. That way you can both can share in the planning — and in the success.

Saturday, Jan. 22, 2024

It’s up to you to make the changes you deem necessary. Make a to-do list to help you get organized and set a plan to reach your expectations. Taking the initiative to lower stress is the first step to better health and a happier lifestyle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Set priorities and don’t stop until you are satisfied with the results. Take a unique approach to your responsibilities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — If your emotions get in the way of reason, a misunderstanding will spin out of control. Hard work will impress someone important.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Traveling and learning are favored and will lead to connections that can make your life easier.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Handle money matters yourself. The sooner you tackle your responsibilities, the easier it will be to get things done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you engage in emotional games, it will only make things worse. You must move forward alone to ensure you get the desired results.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Make your dream come true. Stop imagining



EUGENIA LAST

how things can be; take steps to initiate a plan. A partnership will help you save money.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Stay within budget. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you don’t need. Reach out to someone you can count on for support and advice.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Your contributions will lead to exciting connections and opportunities. Personal growth and physical improvements are favored.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don’t let your emotions take over. A disagreement won’t go well if you aren’t willing to compromise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Know when to say no to people trying to shame you into spending money that you can’t afford to lose.

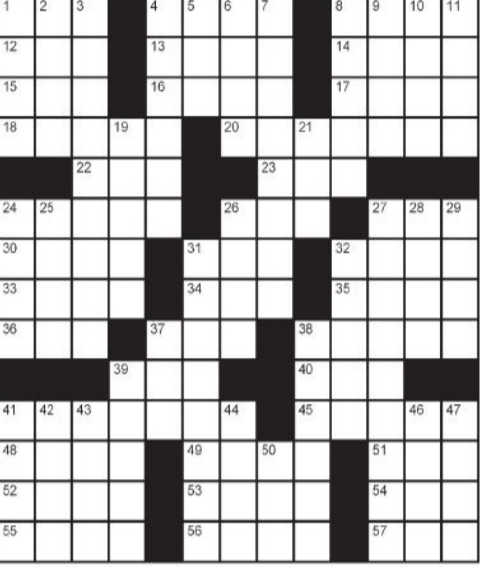
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Stop worrying about what others think. Be true to yourself and focus on what brings you satisfaction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your wit will keep you ahead of your opponents. A money issue will arise if you buy into hype.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Expert
 - 4 “Moby-Dick” captain
 - 8 Surrounded by
 - 12 “There’s the —!”
 - 13 Christen
 - 14 Mouthful
 - 15 Serpentine letter
 - 16 Bit of evidence
 - 17 OT book
 - 18 Annoyance
 - 20 007’s shaken drink
 - 22 Rend
 - 23 Billiards stick
 - 24 Swivel
 - 26 Any ship
 - 27 Ike’s monogram
 - 30 Spoken
 - 31 Payable
 - 32 Urge
 - 33 Ship of 1492
 - 34 Past the self-by date
- DOWN**
- 35 Peak
 - 36 Superlative suffix
 - 37 Kind
 - 38 Many times
 - 39 Unmatched
 - 40 Alien craft
 - 41 Landscape spoiler
 - 45 — cotta
 - 48 Star that flares
 - 49 Russian river
 - 51 Feel poorly
 - 52 Wash, neighbor
 - 53 Actress — Sorvino
 - 54 — turkey
 - 55 Withered
 - 56 Distort
 - 57 Abbr. in timetables

- DOWN**
- 1 Make ready
 - 2 Stratagem
 - 3 Quick to notice



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- 4** Take willingly
5 Actor — Holbrook
6 Grad
7 Whited
8 Become less severe
9 Puccini heroine
- 10** Lay — the line
11 Mr. Arnaz
19 Stringed instrument
21 Regret
24 Cornbread
25 Showy flower
26 Pout
27 Advanced academic degree
28 Woman of rank
29 Paradise
31 Feelings of gloom
32 Social blunder
37 Groom’s affirmation (2 wds.)
38 Prohibit
39 Native Oklahoman
41 Grandson of Adam
42 Yesteryear
43 Perpetually
44 Actor — Estrada
46 Mob scene
47 — mater
50 “We Family”

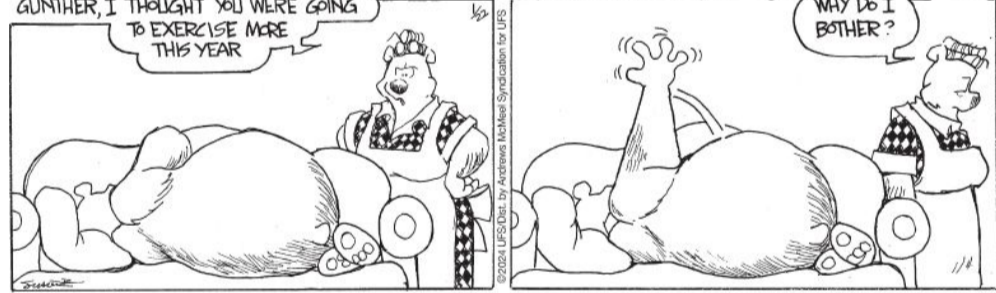
CURTIS



PEANUTS



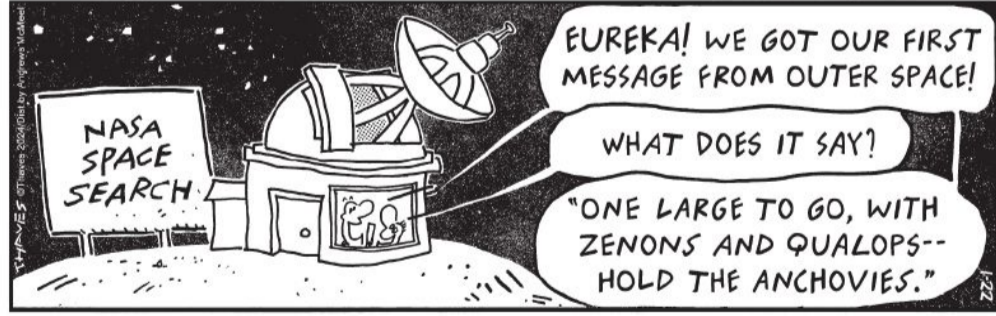
THE GRIZZWELLS



BEETLE BAILEY



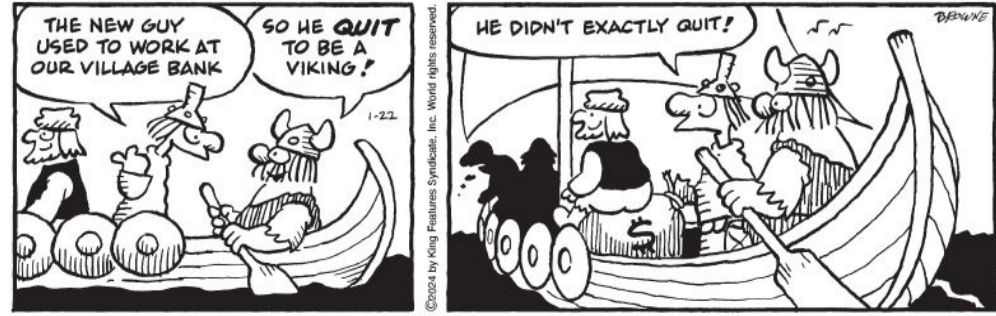
FRANK & ERNEST



BORN LOSER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MARMADUKE BY BRAD & PAUL ANDERSON



GARFIELD



BLONDIE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



MUTTS



BY PATRICK MCDONNELL